

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSC-05
NSCE-00 L-03 EB-07 /073 W
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O R 221538Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8666
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
MEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 112
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

S E C R E T DUBLIN 2673

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV EGEN RH EI
SUBJ: ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND

REF: A) STATE 306303, B) 304674

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1. ON DECEMBER 22 CHARGE AND ECON OFFICER DELIVERED
SECRETARY'S LETTER ON ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND TO PAUL
KEATING, SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO WILL IN TURN
DELIVER IT TO MINISTER FITZGERALD.

2. KEATING SAID THAT DUE TO A NUMBER OF FACTORS, INCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND MINISTER FITZGERALD'S VACATION, IRISH WILL NOT BE ABLE TO REPLY TO DEVELOPMENT FUND PROPOSAL UNTIL AFTER THE NEW YEAR. IN ANY EVENT, KEATING CAUTIONED, THE IRISH BUDGET IS SUCH THAT AN IRISH CONTRIBUTION -- IF ONE IS FORTHCOMING -- WOULD NECESSARILY BE "INFINITESIMAL" AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE FUND ENVISAGED. HE ADDED THAT IRELAND MIGHT WELL EVENTUALLY DONATE TO A JOINT EC CONTRIBUTION TO THE FUND.

3. KEATING COMMENTED THAT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND COULD INVOLVE A PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEM NOT ONLY IN IRELAND BUT IN OTHER COUNTRIES AS WELL. HE FELT THAT THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA MIGHT VIEW THE FUND AS A MEANS OF "BAILING OUT" THE RHODESIAN WHITES RATHER THAN A VEHICLE FOR ASSISTING THE ZIMBABWE ECONOMY IN TRANSITION. HE TOOK NOTE OF THE FACT THAT WE DENY THAT THIS IS AN OBJECTIVE, BUT SUGGESTED THAT THE ISSUE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE RAISED.
REND AHL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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